



The Danish NGO Diálogos and local partners introduced a mercury-free method based on 'direct smelting' in Gaang in the Philippines in 2011, and the 1200 miners in Gaang have now extracted gold mercury-free for eleven years.

Direct smelting is currently not included in UNEP's strategy to reduce mercury emissions, but UNEP states in a recent status report that "There is a need to further disseminate and promote the use of existing guidance on direct smelting".

In Tiira, a gold mining community in Uganda, Diálogos and UNACOH are implementing the mercury-free method together with the miners.

During the Tiira Summit local miners will demonstrate for international key stakeholders that the mercury-free method is a viable.

Mercury pollution from small-scale gold mining is a global concern

Invitation to the Tiira Summit in Uganda, September 18th – 20th 2022

Dear ...

You are invited as part of a small exclusive group of national and international stakeholders to the Tiira Summit.

Prior to the summit a 5 days training program is conducted for a group of miners in Tiira. The participants in the Tiira Summit will oversee the last day of the training, witness the local miners perform mercury-free extraction of gold in a real setting, and participate in a roundtable meeting - The Tiira Summit.

The Tiira Summit will result in the 'Tiira Position Paper' in which stakeholders and miners make a declaration about pros and cons of including the observed mercury-free gold extraction method in international strategies to minimize the global mercury pollution.

The Tiira Summit is funded by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and participation is free of charge. The transport to Busia will be covered for you.

alternative to the use of mercury in small-scale gold mining.

The project is a partnership between the NGO Uganda National Association of Community and Occupational Health (UNACOH) and Diálogos in cooperation with Tiira Small-scale Miners Association (TISMA) and Uganda Association of Artisanal and Small-scale Miners (UGAASM). Busitema University will host the meeting at their campus in Busia, near Tiira.

We look forward to seeing you in Tiira,

Dr. Deogratias Sekimpi, Executive Director UNACOH
Dr. Margrethe Smidth, Phd, president of Diálogos

Please, let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in participating at margrethe.dialogos@gmail.com